United Nations ST/IC/2004/25

Secretariat

1 July 2004

Information circular*

To: Members of delegations and staff at Headquarters

From: The Assistant Secretary-General for Central Support Services

Subject: **Fireworks display on Sunday, 4 July 2004**

1. The Macy's Independence Day fireworks display is a popular event for staff and delegates. Once again, we are pleased to offer an opportunity to enjoy the fireworks from the United Nations property that overlooks the East River. This year, some of our property is off-limits due to major construction projects. Based on the over-attendance last year and the way that construction work has altered the outdoor area, it has become necessary to increase security for this event. As a result, we are opening the premises to the public earlier on 4 July than last year and ask all participants to cooperate with security arrangements and clearance procedures.

2. The fireworks will be displayed on 4 July from two locations on the East River: south of the Brooklyn Bridge and at 34th Street. The display is scheduled to take place from approximately 9 to 10 p.m. The FDR Drive from 14th to 42nd Streets will be closed by 7 p.m.

3. Members of delegations, staff and retirees wishing to view the display may do so from the garden lawn or from inside the complex in the Delegates' Dining Room, North Delegates' Lounge, Staff Café and Cafeteria, which are designated as public areas for viewing the fireworks. The plaza area at the Visitors' Entrance will be designated as a viewing area for those who are physically challenged. Due to construction work, the only access to the grounds that evening will be through the entrance at First Avenue and 46th Street, which will be opened at 3 p.m. The entrance at 42nd Street and First Avenue will be closed. Please plan to arrive early to allow adequate time for screening at the 46th Street and First Avenue entrance. All guests attending the fireworks display will be required to go through metal detectors for security reasons. Delegates, staff members and retirees will need to present a building pass and ticket for access to the event.

4. Access to the complex will be restricted to holders of building passes and their **ticketed** guests. Each pass holder will be permitted to bring a maximum of three

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guests. Tickets of two different colours will be issued. A green ticket will provide access to the interior of the complex; a light-grey ticket will provide access to the grounds only.

5. Tickets will be issued to staff members and retirees on a first-come, first-served basis from the Staff Committee Office, in room S-525, extension 3-7075, from 12 noon to 2 p.m., beginning on Wednesday, 30 June 2004, and on 1 and 2 July 2004. For safety reasons, the number of people admitted to the interior of the complex will be limited by the safety code.

6. Tickets will be issued to members of delegations by the Pass and ID Unit of the Security and Safety Service, located in the UNITAR Building, extension 3-7533. Tickets for members of delegations will be available from Wednesday, 30 June, to Friday, 2 July 2004, from 10 a.m. to 12 noon and 2 to 4 p.m.

7. No tickets will be issued on 4 July and persons without building passes or tickets will be turned away. The dining facilities within the complex will be closed.

8. All guests must enter through the screening tent. Guests with light-grey tickets (grounds only) will follow a queue that will pass through the lobby of the General Assembly Building and exit the east Canadian Doors to the outdoor area overlooking the East River. Staff members will be responsible for the conduct of their guests while at the United Nations. Guests must be escorted at all times while within the complex.

9. Staff members will be permitted to park in the United Nations garage (northern entrance, at 48th Street and the FDR Drive), at the weekend rate, upon presentation of a valid building pass. Guests will not be admitted through the garage; they must be dropped off at the entrance at First Avenue and 46th Street.

10. The main vehicle entrance at First Avenue and 43rd Street will remain open. Staff, retirees, and delegates may use this vehicular entrance for entry and exit. From 6 p.m. until the reopening of the FDR Drive, vehicles can enter and exit the United Nations garage at the FDR Drive and 48th Street. The garage exit at the FDR Drive and 42nd Street will be closed.

11. Staff members and their guests who wish to view the display from their own offices are reminded that windows in the Secretariat building may not be opened under any circumstances. This provision will be strictly enforced.

12. Staff members are reminded that they should lock and secure their offices when they depart on Friday, 2 July 2004.

13. Alcoholic beverages will not be permitted on United Nations grounds. Bringing backpacks, luggage and packages is discouraged and may cause delays in entry. The Security and Safety Service has the authority to inspect all packages and will enforce this regulation.

14. In the event of an emergency, the Security Control Centre should be contacted at extension 3-6666.